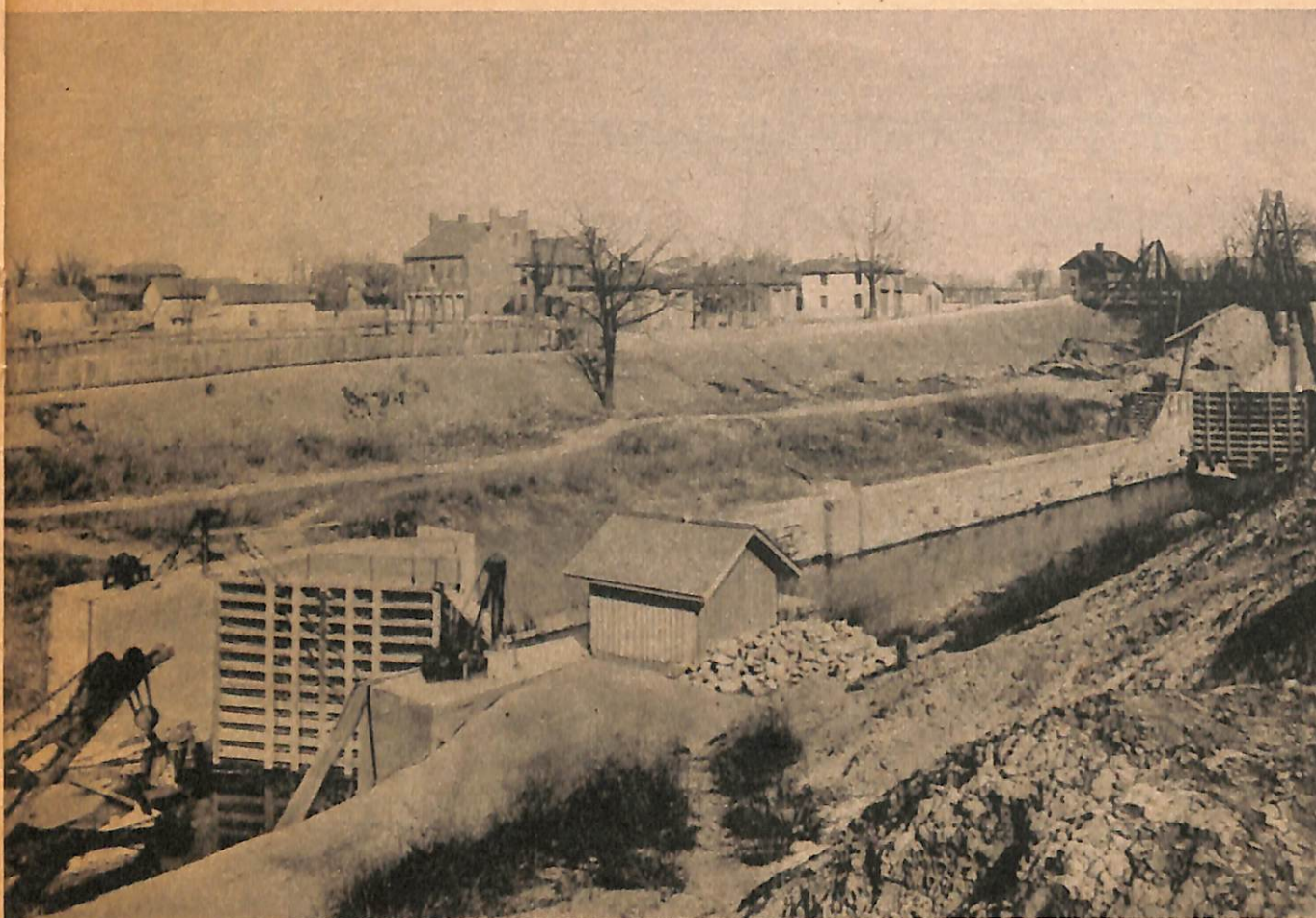




RIVER TRANSPORTATION UNDERWENT CHANGES

A great boost to commerce on the river came in 1871 when the Portland Canal around the falls was widened, making it possible then for steamers to pass safely. The picture at the left was made during the time that work was underway. In the background are some of the buildings which then stood in the Shippingport area.

It was in this period also that most of the main streets were paved and many of the sidewalks were bricked. A local Saturday morning custom was for these sidewalks to be washed, swept and painted with red brick dust by householders. Later, when cement walks took the place of the brick, these were whitened to a shining spic-and-span purity so, as one writer stated, "Sunday church goers might find them as pristine as the desired state of their souls."

Even in the midst of all the post-war rebuilding, Louisville found time to honor its founder. In 1869, the body of George Rogers Clark was disinterred and buried with due ceremony at Cave Hill. Nine graves had to be opened before his remains were discovered since no marker had been placed at first at his resting place.

After the 1870 census, Louisville's population stood at 100,753, an increase of 31,000—48 percent—in 10 years. That census also showed the city had 276 wholesale and retail stores, 681 groceries, 129 steam mills or factories, 26 banks, 86 churches, 672 mechanics' shops of all kinds, 205 lawyers and nearly 15,000 persons employed in manufacturing. Fifteen years later, in 1885, a survey revealed that the city had 1,300 industries, which turned out produce worth \$50,000,000 a year.

A number of important events stand out as milestones in the years following 1870, and underscore the postwar business and cultural growth that took place in Louisville. Dates of those events include:

1870—The first railroad bridge across the



river—at the foot of 14th Street—was completed, a step that vastly improved rail connections with the North.

The new million-dollar Galt House, even more elaborate than the famed hotel which had burned in 1865, was completed.

1871—The enlarged Portland Canal around the falls was completed, making it possible for steamers bound up or downstream to pass with safety.

The Louisville Public Library was founded, and opened the next year with 20,000 books and 100,000 museum pieces.

1872—The two-story, brick National Exposit-

THE CITY'S FIRST SHOWCASE

Prior to the Southern Exposition, a highly successful industrial exposition had been held in this building erected at Chestnut and 4th. The structure was built in just 45 days, a feat unsurpassed in that era nearly a century ago.